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COUNTRY India	REPORT NO	e e e els
Increase in Agricultural Production	DATE DISTRIBUTED	25X1A2g
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SOURCE

 "Initial export quotas for cotton for the season 1954-55 were announced by the government of India on 12 October as: 50 thousand bales Bengal Desi; 25 thousand bales Omra Desi including C P Desi; and 25 thousand bales Mattia, Dholleras, Kalagin.

- 2. "Prospects for the cotton crop in India for the 1954-55 season are considered good. It is estimated that India will produce a commercial crop of 4.6 million bales (of 400 lbs) as against about 4.3 million bales of commercial crop produced in the season 1953-54.
- 3. "It is reported that the government of India has decided to allow the setting up of 30 new sugar mills in the country in order to increase the production of sugar to 1.8 million tons. In the past two years sugar consumption in the country has increased steeply and the present rate of consumption is about 1.8 million tons a year. On the other hand, the production of sugar has declined from about 1.5 million tons in 1951-52 to only about one million tons in 1953-54. The government is importing large quantities of sugar to meet the present shortage.
- 4. "With the decontrol of rice, Bombay's wholesale rice market has reopened for spot trading after a period of 12 years. Rice production in India in 1953-54 has established an all-time record of 27.1 million tons and the country is actually exporting small quantities of rice.
- 5. "India produced 66 million tons of foodgrains in 1953-54, exceeding the Five Year Plan target for 1955-56 by 4.4 million tons. This comprises 56.1 million tons of cereals and 9.9 million tons of pulses. During the year the country also recorded the highest ever acreage of 261 million. But compared with the figures for the year 1949-50, the increase in production works out to 22.2% as against an increase of 6.4% in area. This large production has resulted in drastic reduction in foodgrain imports."

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